GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:890
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007
NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD/ SMART CARD
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to issue National Identity Card/Smart Card system to all the citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the work on the said system is likely to be started and completed ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a)to(c) : The Government of India proposes to issue Multi-purpose National Identity

(smart) Card (MNIC) to the citizens of the country. The project envisages providing unique National Identity Number (NIN) to each person in the National Population Register. However, keeping in view the complexities involved both of the processes and technology, a pilot project has been under implementation on an experimental basis covering a population of 30.95 lakhs in the selected areas in 12 states and one union territory. Identity (smart) cards will be issued to the citizens of age 18 years and above under the pilot project.

The work of production and distribution of identity card has been awarded to Government Companies. As per the revised time line given by them, the distribution of identity card will be completed by June, 2007.

The Government proposes to implement the scheme in the entire country after taking into account the experiences gained and lessons learnt from the pilot project.